MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : They hope so.

Appointment of Boiler Inspectors.

311. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the present (3-12-1104) Boiler Inspectors in the State have any special qualifications for holding the posts, and, if so, what they are ;

(*b*) whether there are any persons in the State service who are specially qualified for holding the Boiler Inspector's place ; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, why they were not preferred to the present incumbents ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes. The Chief Boiler Inspector is a B.E. of the Madras University in Mechanical Engineering. The Boiler Inspector also possesses the same qualification.

(*b*) The Government are not aware.

(*c*) In view of the answer to part (*b*), the question does not arise.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Am I to understand that there is no person employed in the State service who is specially qualified in the boiler branch ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Governmeut*) ; That is so.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Is there no body ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Nobody, except the men who are there now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) ; My question is whether there is anybody else except the men who are now employed in the Boiler branch ; for example, there is a man who has passed the Boiler test examination?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is a man who possesses a competency certificate which is no qualification equal to the qualification possessed by the men already doing that work.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) ; Am I to understand that the man who has a competency certificate in Boiler matters is inferior to the one who has passed the Mechanical Engineering Examination ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Governmen* ; Yes ; he is.

The Soldiers' Committee.

312. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*) : (1) Are the Government aware that Soldiers' Boards organised by the British Indian Government in the various provinces of British India after the late war to help ex-war-service men in the matter of getting *puduval* lands, employment, etc., are still in existence, continuing their activities ?

(2) Will they be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Soldiers' Committee constituted to deal with the claims and needs of ex-war-service men of this State is now (4-12-1104) in existence ;

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[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, why that Committee was dissolved ;

(*c*) whether there is any other agency in the State which now functions in its place ;

(*d*) whether they have received any representation from any such agency for a grant to enable that body to carry on its work on behalf of the ex-war-service men of the State;

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the affirmative, the orders, if any, passed thereon ; and

(*f*) whether they are aware that there are now numerous distressed ex-war-service men in the State seeking help and relief ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (1) The Government have no information, but they are making enquiries.

(2) (*a*) No.

(*b*) The Committee was dissolved in pursuance of its resolution recommending its dissolution on the ground that the objects of the Committee and that of the newly formed War Service Men's Association were identical and that its continuance was no longer necessary.

(*c*) The member is referred to the answer to part (*b*) above.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The matter is under consideration.

(*f*) The Government have no information about the number of ex-war-service men who are in distressed circumstances.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : With reference to part (*f*), are the Government aware that there are at least some ex-war-service men seeking relief ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There must be a few. Whether they are in distressed circumstances or not, Government are not aware.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Are the Government aware that there are a number of such men to whom the Government have not rendered any help after they returned from service in the war ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There may be a few.

Motor Buses plying between Nagercoil and Trivandrum.

313. **MR. V. CHELLAM PILLAI** (*Tovala*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Traffic authorities are in the habit of verifying the time taken by each bus running between Nagercoil and Trivandrum for each journey ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes. This is done by the local Police.

Vagaries of Conductors of Motor Buses.

314. **MR. V. CHELLAM PILLAI** (*Tovala*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that conductors of certain buses running in South Travancore refuse to take people to intermediate stations and at times demand extraordinary fares for the same from them ?

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